

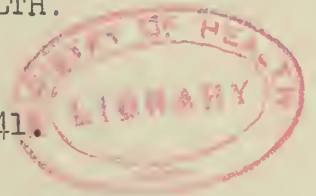
ORANGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

1940

Ulverston.

June, 1941.



Gentlemen,

In their instructions to Medical Officers of Health in Circular 2067, the Ministry indicated that Annual Reports should be curtailed as much as possible, and I have endeavoured to follow out these instructions in the preparation of this year's report.

INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT. I feel every confidence in assuring your Council that, in spite of the many duties imposed on your Surveyor on account of the war time emergency, the district is subject to very close supervision, and I always obtain every assistance from Mr. Huddleston in the performance of my duties.

WATER SUPPLY. The supply during the year was most unsatisfactory, and it was only with the greatest difficulty that it was possible to carry on through the year. Emergency measures had to be taken both by your Council and the Ulverston Rural Council in order to give consumers even a limited and intermittent supply. During the year under report, the available storage at Newton Reservoirs was never filled, and as the year commenced with only partially filled reservoirs, the very low rainfall of the first six months greatly aggravated the position, with the resulting very deficient supply.

This condition of affairs might have, to a large extent, been avoided, had the proposal to lay an additional main to transfer water from Chapel House Plantation to Newton Reservoir been agreed to at an earlier date, as there were occasions when water available for replenishing the reservoirs was running to waste down Way Beck. The construction of this main is now in hand, but due to weather and labour condition its completion has been considerably delayed. However, the progress made has enabled the discharging capacity of the existing 6 inch main to be doubled, by means of a cross connection at an intermediate point, and this is proving of great service, but with the ever increasing demands which are being made, and which will be made in the future by the Ulverston Rural District, it would appear to me that we shall have to consider the provision of increased storage. I make no claim to expert knowledge upon such a question, but common sense and very long experience seems to tell me that we shall have to conserve the millions of gallons of water which run to waste in a wet time, for no main of whatever capacity can deliver water which is not available at the source of supply.

There have been no extensions of the supply during the year.

Rainfall on the Waterworks Gathering ground for the past sixteen years has been:-

<u>Year.</u>	<u>First Quarter.</u>	<u>Second Quarter.</u>	<u>Third Quarter.</u>	<u>Fourth Quarter.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1925	11.30	10.63	14.47	13.42	49.82 ins.
1926	17.61	8.66	15.43	14.27	55.97
1927	14.18	9.68	21.02	13.25	58.13
1928	23.80	11.10	19.53	23.11.	77.54
1929	5.57	7.74	13.79	25.00	52.10
1930	11.68	6.57	15.57	20.08	53.90
1931	10.61	12.55	14.05	19.76	56.97
1932	10.86	12.97	15.50	17.62	56.95
1933	12.01	7.91	8.42	8.90	37.24
1934	10.86	13.20	14.89	16.57	55.52
1935	10.63	12.54	17.21	18.80	59.18
1936	12.12	6.94	15.94	18.43	53.43
1937	12.69	9.39	11.47	8.59	42.14
1938	11.21	11.33	15.88	24.05	62.47
1939	13.17	8.20	13.62	13.19	48.18
1940	9.16	5.35	12.54	17.61	44.66

<u>Average for 30 years</u>	12.679	9.537	15.054	16.822	54.092 ins.
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<u>Previous lowest rainfall in 30 years.</u>	1913	12.14	12.58	6.37	13.21	44.30 ins.
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<u>Previous highest rainfall in 30 years.</u>	1928	23.80	11.10	19.53	23.11	77.54 ins.
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SEWERAGE & DRAINAGE. The sewerage system has generally continued working in a satisfactory manner, this being a combined system dealing with both sewage and rain water. A scheme has been prepared for the provision of a relief sewer to prevent flooding at the junction of Main Street and Kents Bank Road. This has been approved and will be proceeded with immediately labour and materials are available. Unfortunately the trend of National events and requirements have prevented carrying out of this work.

HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL. I am glad to be able to report that this very important branch of sanitary administration is efficiently carried out by the Council, and although the cost may be heavy, I am satisfied that no branch of work could be more satisfactory in its results. The quantities collected have been as follows:-

	<u>Horse Loads.</u>	<u>Motor Loads.</u>
1933	308	974
1934	257	1000
1935	165	1024
1936	---	1025
1937	---	1200
1938	---	1310
1939	---	1200
1940	---	1250

All refuse is dealt with at the Incinerator, some by screening and the rest by fire. During the year the collection of salvage was extended to cover paper, rags, bones, etc., and much useful material has been collected and disposed of.

DAIRIES & COWSHEDS. Quite a considerable amount of the milk supply to your district is produced in the neighbouring Rural District, but there are within the boundaries of the Grange District nine Cowkeepers and Purveyors of Milk whose premises are kept under careful supervision. The milk supply to the district is per table herewith.

- 1 Dairy for Certified and other milk
- 12 Dairy Farms with 120 dairy cattle (estimated) including:-
 - 1 Producer and Bottler for Accredited milk.
 - 9 Cowkeepers and Purveyors of milk
 - (The above are resident in the district).
 - 1 Purveyor of Certified milk.
 - 2 Purveyors of milk.
 - 3. Cowkeepers and Purveyors of milk
 - (Resident in the Ulverston Rural District).

OFFENSIVE TRADES. The only business within the district classed as such is that of a Fried Fish and Chipped Potato dealer. This business is carried on in a satisfactory manner.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES. There is only one Registered slaughter house in the district, and this is temporarily out of use owing to the centralisation of meat supplies. Other butchers have their slaughtering premises in the Ulverston Rural district adjoining. The provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, have been made applicable to sheep, and the occupier has provided an electrical stunning instrument for use.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. The district is practically a one hundred per cent water carriage one. The sanitary accommodation at the end of the year was as follows:-

Houses and farms with privies	3
-do- pail closets	1
Houses and farms and business premises with water closets	839

HOUSING. There are no slum dwellings in your district and it has not been necessary for the Authority to operate any of the Housing Acts. Any defects can be dealt with under the provisions of the Public Health Acts.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	8
Number of dwelling houses (included above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated regulations, 1925) .. .	0
Number of dwelling houses found in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.. .. .	0
Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.. .. .	0

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

Proceedings under Secs. 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925	0
Number of representations made with a view to making closing orders	0
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were made	0

Number of dwelling houses actually closed during the year 0

NEW HOUSES. The number of new houses built during the past twenty years has been 323, the yearly totals being:-

1921	13	1931	6
1922	5	1932	9
1923	20	1933	9
1924	18	1934	20
1925	22	1935	23
1926	29	1936	20
1927	29	1937	20
1928	13	1938	19
1929	21	1939	11
1930	7	1940	9
		Total...	323

Of the above, 271 have been built by private enterprise, 23 by private individuals with the assistance of subsidies, and 29 have been erected by the Council under various powers.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS. So long ago as the year 1937 I reported upon the unsatisfactory condition of the Grange Church of England School and improvements of a temporary character were carried out, pending the time when new schools could be built. With the outbreak of war the chance of carrying out any extensive building programme has entirely disappeared and we shall in the meantime have to be satisfied with the remedial measures which the Managers have carried out.

<u>SANITARY WORK.</u>	Statutory Notices issued	0
	-do- complied with.. . . .	0
	Informal notices served	6
	-do- complied with.. . . .	6
	Factory inspections	8
	Workshops and Workplaces inspections.. . . .	70
	Bakehouse inspections.	12
	Slaughter house inspections	12
	Dairies and Cowsheds	25
	Offensive trades inspections	2
	Rooms disinfected	12
	Bedding destroyed	2
	Blocked drains cleared	3
	House drains repaired.. . . .	2
	School milk samples taken	6

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of district	1884 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres
Population -do- 1921 census.	2920
1931 census.	2648
Inhabited houses	790
Rateable value	£27,490
Amount produced by penny rate	£105

POPULATION. It is not easy in your district to give even an approximate estimate of the population varying as it does from day to day, but I am of opinion that if we take it at 2875 we shall be able to make our calculations fairly correctly.

BIRTHS. During the year there were 18 births registered, producing a birth-rate of 6.2 per 1,000. In the year 1939 there were only 6 births the birth-rate then being 2.2 per 1,000.

Seasonal distribution of births:

		Male.	Female.	Total.
In the first quarter	..	2	2	4
Second	..	3	3	6
Third	..	3	2	5
Fourth	..	-	3	3
TOTALS...		8	10	18

DEATHS. A calculation of the death-rate is made by taking the total number of deaths occurring in the district and from this number subtract the deaths of non-residents which have occurred in the district and add the deaths of residents who may have died outside the district. The actual number of deaths registered as occurring in your district has been 52, ten of these were non-residents, so that 42 residents died in the district, and to this number must be added 12 residents who have died outside the district, giving 54 resident deaths equal to a death rate of 18.7 per 1,000. In 1939 there were 43 deaths equal to 16.2 per 1,000.

Age periods at which deaths occurred.

		Male.	Female.	Total.
Under one year	..	-	1	1
Between one and 65	..	15	9	24
65 and upwards	..	17	22	39
TOTALS.....		32	32	64

Seasonal distribution of the deaths.

		Male.	Female.	Total.
In the First quarter	..	11	13	24
Second	..	9	7	16
Third	..	6	7	13
Fourth	..	6	5	11
TOTALS..		32	32	64

Causes of Death.

	Residents		Non-Residents.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Nephritis	6	4		
Heart	6	5	2	1
Suicide	1			
Gastric Ulcer	1			
Apoplexy	3	6		4
Bronchitis	3	2	1	
Cancer	1	1		
Influenza		1		
Arterio Sclerosis	1	1		
Phthisis	1			
Diabetes	2			
Congenital Defects		1		
Senile Decay		2		
Paralysis	1			
Accident				1
Duodenal Ulcer	1			
Pneumonia	1	3	1	
TOTALS...	28	26	4	6

Tubercular Diseases. I append hereto a table showing the age incidence of the cases of Tubercular Diseases notified in your district and the deaths arising therefrom.

	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
10-15				1				
15-20								
20-25	1	1						
25-35		1						
35-45	1	1		1				
45-55								
55-65	1				1			
Totals.	3	3		2	1			

From the foregoing table it will be perceived that the notifications have been considerably more than usual, but we must bear in mind that at least six of the cases are transfers from other districts.

CANCER. There has been one male and one female death due to this disease which is a considerable improvement on previous years.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATION.

Notifications received during the years from 1931 to 1940.

	<u>Typhoid</u> <u>Fever.</u>	<u>Scarlet</u> <u>Fever.</u>	<u>Diph-</u> <u>theria.</u>	<u>Cerebrosp</u> <u>Fever.</u>	<u>Erysip</u> <u>elas.</u>	<u>Pneu-</u> <u>monia.</u>	<u>Measles.</u>	<u>Whooping</u> <u>Cough.</u>	<u>Totals.</u>
1931		2							2
1932				1					1
1933									
1934	1								1
1935		2	1						3
1936		4							4
1937		4							4
1938		2	1		1	1			5
1939						1			1
1940		1				1	14	2	18

Except for the fact that measles and whooping cough became notifiable as an emergency order, your district was free from infectious disease

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION. In November I attended the Grange School and immunised 42 children as a protection against Diphtheria, and taking these together with those treated previously, I feel that a fair proportion of the children should now be protected, but I feel that the question is one of such importance that I should be glad to attend the school at any time, should there be any desire on the part of parents to have their children inoculated. It has been said that statistics indicate where children from the age of 1 to 15 are treated, Diphtheria disappears, and it is difficult to understand why parents should withhold from their children a protection so simple and so free from risk.

HOSPITALS. Tubercular Diseases are treated by the Lancashire County Council who have a Hospital for diseases of this class at High Carley, near Ulverston, whilst the Hospitals at Kendal are available for the treatment of the ordinary infectious diseases and Small Pox.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES. Motor ambulances are available for all classes of diseases.

LABORATORY WORK. Every facility is given to Medical Practitioners as regards Laboratory work, which is undertaken quite free of cost, and all sera are provided.

In concluding my report I must not neglect to express my gratitude to your Surveyor for his valuable co-operation at all times and to the Council for their ready support.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

G. H. PATTERSON.

L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng., D.P.H. Lond.

Medical Officer of Health.

30th June, 1941.

